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UNCLAS ADANA 0004

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SUBJECT: SOUTHEAST TURKEY PRESS SUMMARY

JANUARY 06, 2004

1. This is the Southeastern Turkey press summary for January 06, 2004. Please note that Turkish press reports often contain errors or exaggerations; AmConsulate Adana does not vouch for the accuracy of the reports summarized here.

POLITICAL, SECURITY, HUMAN RIGHTS

2. Ozgur Gundem, Yeni Safak, Evrensel / In Otluca village, Hakkari, Yusuf Ciftci was allegedly detained by the Hakkari Jandarma Corps Command on December 12 for painting his house yellow, red and green (the colors of PKK/KADEK flag).

3. Hurriyet / In Ceyhan, Adana, four people were arrested for sale and possession of counterfeit dollars during an operation held at a petrol station near Buyukmangit District. Security forces found 120 counterfeit 100 USD banknotes at the petrol station.

ECONOMIC

4. Hurriyet / Mersin Customs had a business volume of 1.8 quadrillion TL in year 2003. This volume makes Mersin Customs the sixth largest in Turkey. Gaziantep Free Zone increased its business volume 89% in year 2003 reaching almost 208 million USD.

REID